



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHEROKEE COUNTY CONSTABLE INDICTED ON FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES

(Tyler, Texas) A Cherokee County Constable has been indicted for possession and distribution of a controlled substance in the Eastern District of Texas.

According to information contained in the indictment **RANDALL LEE THOMPSON**, 37 of Jacksonville, had approximately one pound of pseudoephedrine manufactured into methamphetamine for the purpose of distribution. Thompson was arrested today.

Thompson currently serves as the Cherokee County Precinct 3 Constable and is also employed as a corrections officer with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Hodge Unit in Rusk.

United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig, the top law enforcement officer in the Eastern District of Texas, said, "Officers of the law are expected to uphold the law at all costs. This behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at any level of law enforcement in the Eastern District of Texas."

It is important to note that an indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of either guilt or innocence. All defendants are considered innocent until proven guilty.

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Peter Galbraith, Supervisory Senior Resident Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, stated, "Police corruption is an especially offensive crime because those officers we trust betray their sworn duties for personal benefit and endanger the public."

If convicted, Thompson faces up to 20 years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The charges are the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the TDCJ-Office of Inspector General. Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Moore is prosecuting the case.

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